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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Masanori NANBU et al.

Serial No : Not Yet Assigned (National Stage of PCT/JP99/03802)

Filed : Concurrently Herewith

For : MARKETING SUPPORTING SYSTEM

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fees and the examination of the above-identified patent application on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 28, line 2, delete "or 27".

Claim 34, line 2, delete "or 33".

Claim 35, line 2, change "any one of claims 31 to 34" to ---claim 31---.

Claim 36, line 2, change "any one of claims 31 to 34" to ---claim 31---.

Claim 39, line 2, delete "or 38".

Claim 42, lines 3 and 4, change "claims 1 to 41" to ---claim 1---.